CLAIMS

1. A method of monitoring a broadcast channel for a page at a mobile communication device, comprising:

receiving a broadcast signal in the broadcast channel to check for the page;

5   determining a signal quality metric upon receiving the broadcast signal;

selecting a time period based on the signal quality metric; and

receiving the broadcast again to check for the page only after the time period has passed.

10   2. A method of monitoring a broadcast channel as defined in claim 1, further comprising placing the mobile communication device into a low power mode between the selecting and receiving the broadcast signal again, the low power mode being characterized by the mobile communication device having a lower rate of power consumption than when receiving the broadcast signal.

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3. A method of monitoring a broadcast channel as defined in claim 1, wherein the signal quality metric is determined, at least in part, by the received signal strength.

4. A method of monitoring a broadcast channel as defined in claim 1, wherein the

20   signal quality metric is determined, at least in part, by an automatic gain control setting of a receiver of the mobile communication device.

5. A method of monitoring a broadcast channel as defined in claim 1, wherein the signal quality metric is determined by weighting at least two parameters selected from the group consisting of received signal strength of the broadcast signal, automatic gain control setting of a receiver of the mobile communication device, and a correlation value of the

5   broadcast signal.

6. A method of monitoring a broadcast channel as defined in claim 1, wherein if the signal quality metric is below a preselected threshold, the selecting the time period comprises selecting a default time period.

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7. A method of monitoring a broadcast channel as defined in claim 1, wherein the selecting the time period based on the signal quality metric comprises selecting the time period in terms of a number of time slots, the time slots defined by an air interface used by the mobile communication device.

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